

**SUNSHINE PERIOD****GRAND LODGE  
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®**

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NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**RECEIVED****MAY 18 2005**

18 May 2005

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

The Honorable Kevin Martin  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: IP-Enabled Services, WC Docket No. 04-36

Dear Chairman Martin:

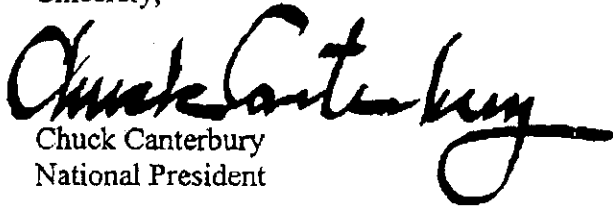
At your request, I am writing on behalf of the more than 318,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police to express our views on the critical issue of the public's access to emergency services. The F.O.P. is the nation's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, and the voice of those who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving our communities.

Consistent with our mission, we believe that every customer has a right to reach an emergency operator when they dial 911 from their phone. We are aware that some VoIP providers have been unable to provide their customers this access, and, regrettably, tragedies have occurred. The growing list of avoidable failures is exemplified by a recent case in Houston, where a seventeen year old girl was unable, despite repeated attempts, to reach the police after her parents were shot by intruders. I write to you today to urge you to do everything in your power to ensure that these tragedies stop. The Commission should take immediate action to require all VoIP providers - whether they provide "fixed" or "nomadic" services - to provide the same 911 access that other service providers offer their customers. It is imperative, as a matter of public safety, that these requirements are implemented in the next few months.

The F.O.P. supports you in taking whatever actions are necessary to ensure that no more lives are in danger because of lack of access to 911. Where lives are at stake, no actions are too aggressive. Thank you for your attention to our concerns, and please do not

hesitate to contact me, or Executive Director Jim Pasco, through our Washington office if I can provide you with any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Canterbury  
National President